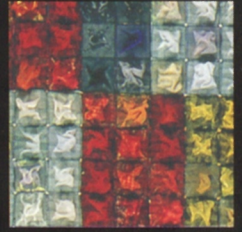
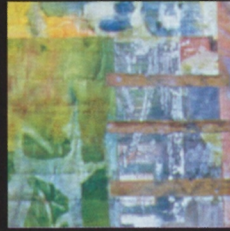


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Spring 2002



Piecing A Quilt of Life

Contemporary Art Quilts by Senior Women

March 8 - June 3



Hold that Thought by Susan Rienzo

QUILTS *Tell Stories of Women's Lives*

"The only truly unique thing any of us can give to the world is our story."

Dottie Moore, quilt artist, Rock Hill



In her travels across the United States, quilter Dottie Moore has studied how art quilters express their creativity. The stories of 33 of these women are told in a dazzling display of color, texture and pattern in *Piecing a Quilt of Life: Contemporary Art Quilts by Senior Women*. The exhibit can be seen from March 8 to June 3 at the State Museum.

The 92 quilts in the show give a "very diverse" view of the medium, says Robin Waites, curator of the exhibit. Landscapes. Cityscapes. Portraits. Abstracts. You name it. Some designs recall traditional quilt patterns. Others are "very painterly," she says. "There are some wonderful pieces inspired by nature."

"Hold that Thought," a quilt by Susan Rienzo of Center Moriches, N.Y., is the signature piece for the exhibition. "It really embodies the spirit of the project," Waites says. "When people reach this point in their lives, they find a lot of power and creativity." The woman on the quilt is "literally exploding with ideas and images and color." Although Waites suspects the figure is a self-portrait of Rienzo, "the imagery has the potential to inspire anyone who sees the piece, not just older women."

"What holds the exhibit together is the narrative quality," Waites says. "The artists tell their personal stories through the creative process of making these quilts." This story telling is emphasized by photographs of the artists and some audio tapes of interviews with them.

Although the quilts were made by older women, Moore says the exhibit represents everyone. "The senior woman, the creative woman, is just a symbol for the wise, intuitive, creative part of all of us."

"There is a strong tradition of quilting in this country," Waites says. In the 1970s, artists began to look at quilts in terms of their aesthetic value. What grew out of that was the art quilt movement. "*Piecing a Quilt of Life* gives a wonderful view of the contemporary art quilt medium," she says. South Carolina artists in the show are Priscilla Hair of Easley and Marlene O'Bryant Seabrook of Charleston.

Piecing a Quilt of Life: Contemporary Art Quilts by Senior Women is sponsored in part by YLI Corporation and by a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. Skirt!, a regional magazine for women published in Charleston, is the media sponsor.

Cover: *Leaf Study* by Ann Ferkovich (center) surrounded by details from a variety of quilts in the exhibit.

POP!

South Carolina-made bottles held forgotten sodas, even customized for a president.

Ah, to take a swig on a hot summer afternoon of Red Spot, Grapette, Gay-ola the improved cola, or even Jurk. Those were the days.

Now those soft drinks, all the products of small, local bottlers, are gone. Only Blenheim Ginger Ale, the proud product of Hamer, S.C., remains. But the story of the company that made bottles for locally-produced soft drinks, as well as for Coke, Pepsi and Dr. Pepper, is preserved in the exhibit *Home Blown: Beverage Bottles of Laurens Glass Works, 1910-1996*, which can be seen from April 6 to Jan. 12 at the State Museum.

When prominent Upstate businessmen founded the company in 1911, it employed between 50 and 75 workers, says Dr. Fritz Hamer, the curator of the exhibit. During the heyday of the glass pop bottle in the 1960s, it employed 800. "These bottles were being distributed all up and down the East Coast, from New England to Florida and as far west as Texas," he says. LGW employed 400 people when the decline in demand for glass bottles forced then-owner Ball-In Con Glass Packaging Corp. to close it in 1996.

The company made millions of bottles, Hamer says. Some of the most intriguing were 2,400 special Canada Dry bottles bearing the vice-presidential seal. Lyndon Johnson planned to serve them at a reception honoring John F. Kennedy during his visit to Texas on Nov. 22, 1963. The reception, of course, never occurred.

The bottles were destroyed. However, a few, which never reached the bottler in Texas, were preserved. Examples can be seen in the exhibit.

An interesting aspect of the plant was that it was unionized as early as the 1920s, Hamer says. A "large part" of the reason for this is that glassmaking was such a specialized skill that the company couldn't find enough local workers who could do it, so many LGW employees came from the North and from as far away as Germany and Czechoslovakia.

The exhibit, which includes 150 soft drink bottles, is based on the collection of the Holcombe family. Dr. Fred Holcombe, a native of Pickens, practiced optometry in Clinton for more than 50 years. He died in 2000. However, his son, Joe, was "very helpful and cooperative" in sharing his family's passion for "tangible history" with the people of South Carolina, Hamer says.

Visitors who would like to learn more about this interesting aspect of South Carolina's industrial history can join Hamer at 2:30 p.m. on April 20 for a gallery tour of the exhibit. Marsha Trowbridge will discuss patent medicines, which were the beginning of the soft drink industry, on May 18.



... some of the most intriguing were 2,400 special Canada Dry bottles bearing the vice-presidential seal.

Lyndon Johnson planned to serve them at a reception honoring John F. Kennedy during his visit to Texas on Nov. 22, 1963. The reception, of course, never occurred.

Photo from the Saturday Evening Post, Dec. 14, 1963





IT'S A HIT!

THEME PARK

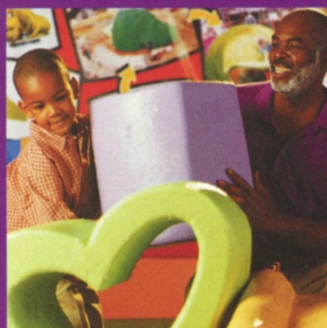
The Art and Science of Universal's Islands of Adventure

Since its opening Jan. 26, fun seekers have poured into the museum to transform themselves into superheroes with the magic of light and mirrors in the Illusion area, design their own theme parks via computer in Design: Port of Entry or ride the Incredible Hulk Roller Coaster Simulator to get the feel of the real thing in the Thrill section. Visitors will discover how state-of-the-art technology enables roller coasters to propel riders from zero to 40 mph in three seconds!

"It really has been a thrill to see people enjoying this terrific exhibit," says Chief Science Curator Ron Shelton. "Of course, what's fun for me is both our visitors' reac-

tions, and the fact that this exhibit teaches a lot of science and art concepts such as physics, math and even music while folks are enjoying designing water rides for Popeye the Sailor or taking photos of themselves as the Cat in the Hat."

"And these are just a sample of the fun and enlightening features that people are enjoying in Theme Park," says Shelton. "If you haven't been yet, come in soon and join the fun. It will enhance your next visit to the museum and a theme park."



More "Islands" to Enjoy...

- Theming: Seuss Landing, based on the characters of the immortal Dr. Seuss, where youngsters can build a home for Thing One and Thing Two or put the Cat in the Hat in the doghouse in the Seussian City Wonky Block Center, or use thuds, honks and toots with found objects to create wacky Seussian music.
- Splash: Toon Lagoon, featuring the Cat in the Hat photo spot, liquid fun video tour and water ride design.
- Showbotics, featuring Jurassic Park, in which you can examine the mechanics of robotic dinosaurs to see what makes them tick, even program and manipulate the head of a "spitter" dinosaur, and more.

Admission for this special exhibit is \$3 in addition to regular museum admission for persons age four and up.

National Sponsors: Discover Card® and KODAK

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LAMAR

Artists see and think differently than others, and two new museum exhibits are excellent demonstrations. *Paperwork: Gene Merritt Drawings from the Permanent Collection* opened Feb. 16 and *Concrete Knowledge: Constructions and Carvings* by L.C. Carson opens April 20.

Merritt, who lives in Rock Hill, is the "most internationally recognized art brut (French for "raw art") artist in the United States," says Paul Matheny, the museum's art curator. His style is "remarkably different from anything I have ever seen. It is genuine and raw and original."

When Merritt was an infant, a fever left him with a mental disability. "It has shifted his perspective of reality," Matheny says. Merritt has never been to museums. He reads no art books. "It's almost as if he's living in a vacuum as far as art is concerned," he says.

In the early 1990s, Merritt began drawing on notebook paper with a pen. His subjects reflect popular personalities, such as John Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe; his life; and his community.

Tom Stanley of Winthrop University was one of the first to recognize the value of Merritt's drawings. Since then his "paperwork" has been exhibited in Switzeland, Paris and Hong Kong, as well as in South Carolina.

Unlike Merritt, Carson (1913-1998) was interested in art. He read about it, and he traveled. One trip was to the Ave Maria Grotto in Alabama. After seeing models of churches and holy places created by Brother Joseph Zoettl, he began building what became Concrete City.

Carson used the skills – and materials — from his construction businesses, Matheny says. Curtain rods, cultured marble, found objects, figurines and concrete. With them he created 32 buildings inspired by architecture around the world. Carson erected the city in



SELF-TAUGHT ARTISTS

Give Us a Unique Look at the World

his backyard in Orangeburg.

Since the buildings could not be preserved on the site, they were moved to the museum in 1998. About 15 of them will be in the show. Also on exhibit will be furniture and relief carvings Carson created, portraying Bill Clinton and Mayan figures, as well as the Lizard Man of Lee County.

Carson's work was first exhibited in 1981. It was also included in *Tree of Life*, the inaugural exhibit at the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore and *Still Worth Keeping: Communities, Preservation and Self-taught Artists* at the State Museum in 1997.

Both exhibits can be seen until Aug. 18.

MADAM CURIE'S Legacy Explored

One in three patients entering U.S. hospitals benefits directly from radiation. These benefits are a direct outgrowth of the pioneering work of Marie Curie, whose discovery of radium revolutionized the field of medicine

An interactive exhibit now at the State Museum, *The Legacy of Marie Curie: 100 Years of Science Innovation*, examines the incredible affect her discovery has had on the world.

Starting with the discovery of radioactivity, its many benefits and the breadth of Curie's work, the exhibit also features the subsequent contributions of other women scientists who built on Curie's work in the fields of nuclear science and chemistry.

"Some of the original laboratory equipment used by Madam Curie is included in the exhibit," says Chief Curator of History Fritz Hamer. "From the early use of the x-ray to the 21st century search for quarks, visitors can explore 100 years of innovations in areas such as medicine, oil and gas exploration, power generation, phar-

macology, astronomy, agriculture, archaeology and geography, all based on the study of the atom."

The exhibition was organized by the J. Wayne Stark University Center Galleries as part of the Women In Discovery Project at

Texas A & M University. Generous support for the exhibition was provided by COGEMA, TXU Electric and Gas, the American Nuclear Society, the U.S. Department of Energy - Office of Nuclear Energy, the Nuclear Energy Institute, FRAMATOME and Texas A & M University.

The Legacy of Marie Curie: 100 Years of Science Innovation can be seen in the museum's 401 Gallery through March 24.



Coming April 20, the museum will present the musical "Glow: The Story of Marie Curie" in the auditorium at 11:30 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. Call (803) 898-4902.

The Curie exhibit and programs are sponsored by the Columbia Section of the American Nuclear Society, SCANA and Westinghouse.

You're Invited! to the Friends' 21st ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 10

By being a Friend of the State Museum you help support the history, culture and great programming it provides. Join us as we celebrate another year! Come early and enjoy the stunning new exhibit *Piecing A Quilt of Life*.

2:00 - 3:00 • Quilting Demonstrations,
Storytellers & Guided Tours
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. • Annual Meeting
4:00 - 5:00 p.m. • Friends Reception

MARCH

4th, 11th, 18th, 25th. The museum is closed on Mondays.

10th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

16th - Women in Science Day. Booths on the mezzanine, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., plus other activities described below.

16th - Program, "Secret City and Super Science," the story of Oak Ridge and the Manhattan Project, presented by Dr. Steve Stow. 1 p.m., Auditorium.

16th - Program, "The Accidental Engineer: My Unconventional Journey to Science," presented by Ms. Leslie Archie. 3 p.m., Auditorium.

APRIL

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th. The museum is closed on Mondays.



"Glow," an original musical presented by College of Charleston students, will give visitors a look at the life of a great scientist, Marie Curie.

5th - Tartan Fest Ceilidh. Family-oriented evening of Scottish music, dance, storytelling and poetry. Tickets \$6. For information, call (803) 695-0307. 7-9 p.m., Vista Room.

6th - National Tartan Day. Scottish organizations from around the state will display their family tartans and talk with visitors about tracing their Scottish ancestors. The day includes piping and drumming, dancing and games for children. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mezzanine and Museum Grounds.

6th - Tartan Fest Scottish Symposium. Topics include genealogy, storytelling, and Scottish country dancing. Fee \$22 (\$24 at the door), includes lunch. Information (803) 898-4902.

6th - Scottish Fashion Show. Scottish piping and drumming will follow the show. 12:30 p.m., Vista Room.

13th - Snake Talk presented with live snakes by State Museum Natural History Curator Jim Knight. 2:30 p.m., Vista Room.

13th - Civil War living history encampment. Members of the 20th S.C. Volunteer Infantry Regiment will portray Confederate and U.S. soldiers, sailors and civilians. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Museum Grounds.

14th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

20th - "Glow: The Story of Marie Curie," a musical, presented in conjunction with the exhibit *The Legacy of Marie Curie: 100 Years of Science Innovation*. \$3 plus regular museum admission. 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m., Auditorium.

20th - Gallery Tour. Join History Curator Fritz Hamer as he leads a gallery tour of the exhibit *Home Blown: Beverage Bottles of Laurens Glass Works, 1910-1996*. 1:30 p.m., Palmetto Gallery.

21st - Artifact Identification. State Museum curators will identify and discuss objects with visitors. Limit of five objects per family, please 2-4 p.m., Vista Room.

MAY

6th, 13th, 20th, 27th. The museum is closed on Mondays.

12th - Blue Sky mural, "Gervais St. Extension," open for viewing. 1-5 p.m., Vista Room.

12th - Mother's Day. Discount admission for all moms accompanied by their children of any age!

18th -Exhibit program. Join Marsha Ardila as she presents a talk on patent medicines and the origins of soft drinks. In conjunction with the exhibit *Home Blown: Beverage Bottles of Laurens Glass Works, 1910-1996*. 2:30, Red Room.

19th - Live music. Former Bill Monroe banjoist Butch Robins will perform bluegrass and traditional music. 3 p.m., Auditorium.



Jim Knight, curator of natural history, will help visitors of all ages get a feel for snakes on April 13.

EXHIBITIONS

THROUGH MAY 5

THEME PARK

The Art and Science of Universal's Islands of Adventure

FEB. 16 THROUGH AUG. 18

PAPERWORK: Gene Merritt Drawings from the Permanent Collection

MARCH 8 THROUGH JUNE 3

PIECING A QUILT OF LIFE: Contemporary Art Quilts by Senior Women

THROUGH MARCH 24

THE LEGACY OF MARIE CURIE: 100 Years of Science Innovation

APRIL 20 THROUGH AUG. 18

CONCRETE KNOWLEDGE: Constructions and Carvings by L.C. Carson

ON WEEKENDS

STRINGER DISCOVERY CENTER ZOOM

Open Tuesday - Friday afternoons and on weekends for museum visitors.

SCIENCE THEATRE

Inside The Atom

2:00 p.m. Saturdays

Optical Illusions

12:30 p.m. Saturdays &

2:00 p.m. Sundays

Light and Lasers

3:30 p.m. Saturdays &

3:30 p.m. Sundays

NOTE: Dates are subject to change without notice. Call ahead to verify weekend programs at (803) 898-4978.

WEE BIT O' SCOTLAND

at the State Museum



Tartan Fest, a yearly celebration of South Carolina's Scottish heritage, is set for April 6, the anniversary of the signing of Scotland's declaration of independence.

"Many South Carolinians are of Scottish descent, and even those who aren't enjoy the dazzling tartans, the graceful dancing and the wail of the pipes," says Julia Hill, the museum's public programs manager. "We're always delighted to have the Statewide Tartan Fest Committee bring a wee bit o' Scotland to the State Museum."

A full day of activities is planned for visitors of all ages. They can listen to bagpipes and experiment with Highland dancing, Scottish country dancing and Scottish wrestling. A champion Scottish wrestler will demonstrate and teach his craft. Participants will wear kilts, which will be provided.

Representatives of clans and Scottish organizations will be on hand to provide information about many subjects, including Scotland, Scots in America and tracing one's Scottish ancestors. A variety of Scottish delights will be sold. One vendor will offer Scottish food, including bridies, shortbread and meat pies.

At a special Highland Games for children, youngsters will be able to toss a caber, lift the Stone of Strength and participate in a tug of war.

A Scottish fashion show, which also is free with admission, will be held at mid-day. It will feature clothing well-dressed families wear at Scottish functions.

Adults who are interested in a more extensive study of things Scottish can participate in a symposium. New instructors will teach classes in a variety of topics, including Scottish Gaelic, historic Celtic pottery, storytelling and genealogy. A kilt maker will discuss the history of kilts and tartans. The fee for the symposium is \$22 in

advance and \$24 at the door and includes a box lunch.

For those who want an early start on Tartan Fest activities, there will be a Ceilidh at 7 p.m. on April 5. The family-oriented program includes storytelling, music and demonstrations of Highland dancing and Scottish country dancing. Neil Anderson of Columbia will play the bagpipes. "I understand he is one of the best pipers in the nation," Hill says. Tickets for the Ceilidh are \$6.

For more information, call Libit Woodington at (803) 695-0307 or Hill at (803) 898-4902 or e-mail tartanfest@aol.com

Stringer Discovery Center Introduces



ZOOM is on-air, online and at the South Carolina State Museum thanks to a partnership between WGBH Boston, SCETV, and the State Museum. Families and school groups can share in ZOOM experiences by visiting the first ZOOMzone in the state. Hands-on activities provide all ages with a place to play games, try out experiments from the show and contribute their own ideas.

Open Tuesday - Friday afternoons and on weekends for museum visitors. No reservation is required, and it is free with regular museum admission.

For more ZOOM activities, log-on to: www.pbskids.org/zoom



Through December 31, 2002

ZOOM at the State Museum is sponsored in part with funds provided by The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and a lifetime of learning.

VOLUNTEER *Spotlight*

Thirty-two enthusiastic volunteers between the ages of 9 and 12 have ZOOMed into the State Museum. This spring, on weekends and school holidays, they will assist visitors in the museum's ZOOMzone. The zone is a recreation of the popular PBS science program for children. "The ZOOMers are excited about helping others learn about science. That's the whole point of the zone," says Linda McWhorter, the museum's director of education. They also will help develop new ZOOM activities for the museum.

The ZOOMers are Jacob Borchardt, Donovan Carmichael, Elliot Carmichael, Jessica Counts, Matthew Guempel, Emily Herman, McHale Kuhlkin-Hornsby, Raymond Hughes, Alex Hoyt, Emily Learner, Alison Martin, Anthony McCollum, Cassie McLeod, Chelsea McMorris, Marcel Miller, Maggie Rector, Chelsea Simmons, Nicolaus Wegrzyn and Lindsey Wood.

Also volunteering are Cory Flygare, Edward Holliday, Sims Holliday, Megan Munib, Angelina Podplesky, Ashley Podplesky, Azaria Podplesky, Mary Smith, Zach Smith, Sarah Strickland, Linda Swier, Elizabeth Willits and Tiffany White.

McWhorter will be recruiting summer ZOOMers in April. For more information, call her at (803) 898-4989 or check the museum's web site, www.museum.state.sc.us



For information on how to become a volunteer, please call Jeff Powley at 803.898.4912.

Museum Gets

NEW COMMISSIONER



Governor Jim Hodges has appointed Charles Wallace as the newest addition to the Museum Commission. Wallace is from Greenwood and will represent congressional district three.

Wallace is chairman and CEO of the III Group LLC, a hotel/resort development company. He currently owns and operates the Inn on the Square in Greenwood and has several projects under development.

The new commissioner is a graduate of The Citadel and formerly served on its board of trustees. He has served on numerous boards throughout the state and nation. He currently serves as a director on the S.C. Hospitality Association board and the

Lander University Board of Visitors.

Prior to forming the III Group, Wallace was a regional manager for Hilton Hotels.

Wallace is married and has three sons. His professional affiliations include the American Hotel and Lodging Association; the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and Developers; and the Asian American Hotel Operators Association. He also serves as Director of Adullam's Men's Ministry for Grace Community Church in Greenwood.

"We welcome Mr. Wallace to the State Museum Commission," said Commission Chairman Gray Culbreath. "We are excited to have someone of his talents on the board, and we look forward to working with him to continue to bring the people of South Carolina the quality cultural facility that they deserve and have come to expect from the State Museum."

South Carolina State Museum

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IMAGES, the newsletter of the Friends of the South Carolina State Museum, is published quarterly by the South Carolina Museum Foundation. The museum opened Oct. 29, 1988, as a multidisciplinary facility which tells the story of South Carolina's art, natural history, science and technology and cultural history. All material printed in *IMAGES* is copyrighted 2002 by the South Carolina State Museum and may not be reprinted without permission.

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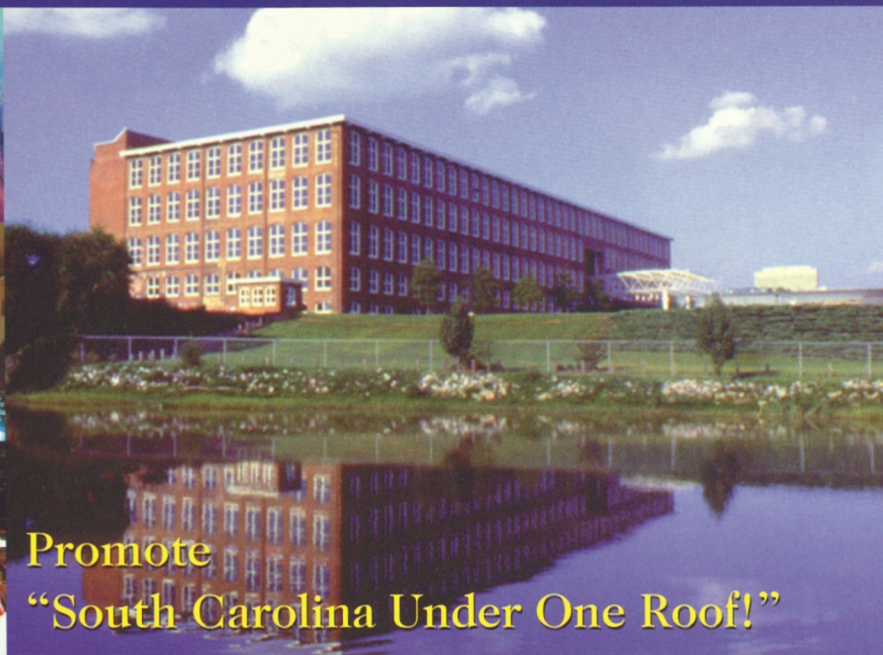
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Promote
"South Carolina Under One Roof!"

2002 ANNUAL FUND

We in South Carolina are fortunate to have one of the finest museums in America – or anywhere else!

You know this, but we need your help in "spreading the word." The more people who are informed and excited about the wondrous exhibits, programming and hands-on experiences awaiting them in the South Carolina State Museum, the better museum we will have – for all of us!

Visitors to the Museum leave with a better appreciation of our state, our people, our history and our culture. It is important that we promote the extraordinary educational and cultural opportunities available here. Help us reach all corners of South Carolina. If you have enjoyed bringing friends and family members to the State Museum, you can help insure others have the same opportunity.

The State Museum Commission has designated the 2002-2003 Annual Fund for Excellence to be used for a strategic marketing and promotions campaign. Your donation to the Annual Fund will enable us to produce, among other things, a first-class television spot that will showcase the museum as the unique cultural, recreational and educational treasure it is. This campaign will significantly enhance the museum's visibility and visitation, as well as stimulate important new sources of revenue.

Please support your State Museum by sending your tax-deductible contribution to the South Carolina Museum Foundation, Post Office Box 11442, Columbia, SC, 29211-1442. With your help, our message will reach people across this state and beyond.

Thank you very much for your continued support!

SHARE THE THRILLS

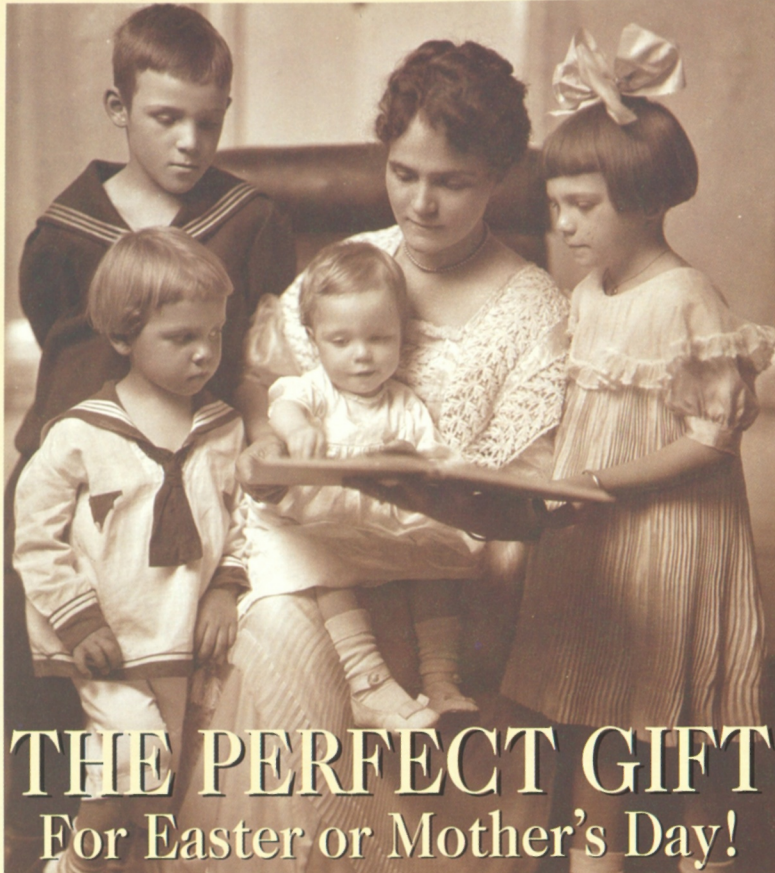
of Theme Park with friends and family!



Passes to this exciting new exhibit can be purchased as a gift for \$3.00 each. Children three years of age and younger are not charged.

Call Melissa Spotts at the Museum Foundation at (803) 898-4933 for more details or to purchase your passes.





THE PERFECT GIFT For Easter or Mother's Day!

Share the excitement of the upcoming year at the State Museum by giving a gift membership and receive a \$5.00 gift certificate to the Cotton Mill Exchange. Orders must be received by March 28 for Easter and May 10 for Mother's Day.

MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES INCLUDE:

- Free Admission year-round
- Invitation to annual Friends meeting
- Members-only previews, viewings & events
- Tours of selected exhibits
- 10% member discount at the Museum's store, the Cotton Mill Exchange
- Free subscription to Images
- Reciprocal privileges at Time Travelers historical institutions nationally
- Discounts on select tickets to the Koger Center's season performances
- Discount admission to Riverbanks Zoo with the presentation of your membership card
- Themed birthday party opportunities
- Tax deductions

For more information, call (803) 898-4937. Please fill out this form to give a gift membership to a special person. **Mail to:** SC Museum Foundation, Post Office Box 11442, Columbia, SC 29211-1442 or Fax to: (803)898-4969.

Send my gift to:

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☐ Check payable to: **SC Museum Foundation**

Please charge my:

☐ Mastercard ☐ VISA

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Thank You MICHELIN!



It was Michelin to the rescue when the State Museum's exhibit truck needed new tires! Here Michelin's Brian Pearson and the museum's Building Services Supervisor Richard Huiett examine the truck's new tires. Our thanks to Michelin for its generosity!

ARTIFACT DONORS

We would like to recognize the people and institutions who during the past few months have generously donated objects to our collections. Their interest, support and generosity have measurably assisted us in our efforts to continue to build the State Museum for South Carolina.

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IMPRESSIONS

NEWS

from the President, Chris Doar

Wrapping up '01 & Looking Forward to '02



Photo by Tui Underwood

The Impressions have just completed the most successful year in our history and we are looking forward to an even better 2002. Our membership numbers have swelled over the last twelve months due to some really great events. As always, the recently completed Annual Historic Hauntings Ghost Tours was a huge triumph. For the second year in a row, we sold every seat on each of the twelve tours! Hundreds of people learned about the scary and interesting aspects of our great Columbia. Fun was had by all and, based on the waiting list, we may have to add another night of tours next year. A special thanks goes out to all of our volunteers, helpers, and museum personnel. The tour is always a collective effort and everyone did a superlative job again this year.

We closed out the year with a great Christmas wine tasting at the Museum. Much appreciation to Gervais & Vine for its help and support in this event. We had a great time and we all learned a thing or two about wine. Though the event may

sound stuffy, it was anything but. In keeping with the casual and fun nature of our group, we developed a "Siskel & Ebert" styled thumbs up/thumbs down review of each wine. It was a wonderful way to share the holiday spirit with friends and loved ones. Many of the attendees voiced their hope that the tasting becomes an annual event as well!

CARE TO JOIN US?

We are now looking forward to another, even more successful, year. We plan on having more exclusive "Behind-the-Scenes" events, Ghost Tours III, and many other surprises. We may even throw in another "Impressions Night" at the Bombers ballpark or another dinosaur bone dig in the coming months. There is so much that we can do in partnership with the Museum that it is hard to keep the events down to a manageable number!

With all of the fun we have had, and all of the great events in store, I hope those of you who have not joined the Impressions will consider getting together with us. We are growing by leaps and bounds and we have no plans on slowing down. Impressions members are able to attend exclusive Museum and Columbia events that are normally closed to the general public. If you need another enticement, Impressions members are also the first to be able to reserve spots on the annual Ghost Tours. If you missed out in years past, this is your chance to jump to the front of the line! If you are interested in joining the Impressions, please contact the Foundation at (803) 898-4937.

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Friends who joined between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31

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The Donor reception for the 2001 Annual Fund on Nov. 18 featured acclaimed historian and USC Professor Walter Edgar signing copies of his new book "Partisans and Redcoats" (top) and Chief Curator of History Fritz Hamer (bottom) interpreting the object of last year's annual fund, artist Boyd Saunders's painting of "The Battle of Hanging Rock."

snap shots



Hundreds of Friends members turned out for the opening of Theme Park Jan. 25. Friends enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn and other theme park food and were "wowed" by fun activities from operating Jurassic Park dinosaur robots to riding the Incredible Hulk roller coaster simulator. Thanks to Cromer's for the festive food, and to our sponsors — WIS, B-106, The State, Lamar and Wachovia — for their generous support of this fantastic exhibit!

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